IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace paragraph **[0005]** with the following amended paragraph:

[0005] Generally, the amount of traffic (e.g., as between two large corporate offices) and the extent of the usage (e.g., every business day for the foreseeable future) justifies the costs associated with dedicating, in a quasi-permanent fashion, a fixed amount of the network's resources to one particular pathway. Typically, a PVC is manually configured by a network manager from a network management control station 104. As such, commands are issued from the network management control station 104 to the various nodes in the network 101 that "make up" the PVC (so that the lookup tables, etc. within these nodes can be properly updated).

Please replace paragraph **[0006]** with the following amended paragraph:

[0006] Another characteristic of a PVC is that a PVC user simply directs traffic into the network 101 (e.g., from node 105_1) with little or no formal request for transportation services from the network 101. For example, typically, a PVC user at node 105_1 will send ATM cells having the PVC's Virtual Path Identifier/Virtual Channel Identifier (VPI/VCI) across the ATM User Network Interface (UNI) at link 103_1. Based upon the VPI/VCI information, node 102_1 (e.g., as well as subsequent nodes along the PVC path) will be able to properly switch the cells onto a link that corresponds to the PVC path. Thus, because the connection is

quasi-permanent and has already been established, there is little or no procedural overhead associated with connection setup (such as a SETUP request message and the like). The user is provided an appropriate VPI/VCI well beforehand (e.g., shortly after PVC setup) which is invoked each time thereafter by the user when the services of the PVC are desired.

Please replace paragraph **[0020]** with the following amended paragraph:

[0020] A problem with SPVC connections is the inefficiencies associated with changing the address of a~~n~~destination endpoint ~~destination~~ node. That is, each node 102_1 through 102_7 is referenced according to its own unique address. Examples include the Network Service Access Point (NSAP) addressing format or the E.164 addressing format. If the address of the destination endpoint ~~destination~~ node changes, a change should be made to each source node that handles a PVC or SPVC that is directed to the particular endpoint destination node whose address is being changed.

Please replace paragraph **[0022]** with the following amended paragraph:

[0022] As such, the SPVC information of source endpoint node 102_1 will be manually reconfigured to reflect the address change of destination endpoint node 102_7. Furthermore, to the extent that node 102_7 acts as a destination endpoint node for other SPVCs within network 101, the corresponding source endpoint

nodes for each of these SPVCs should be similarly reconfigured. For example, if nodes 102_2, 102_3, 102_5, and 102_6 each behave as a source endpoint node for an SPVC that is directed to node 102_7, each of these nodes 102_2, 102_3, 102_5, and 102_6 will also be manually reconfigured to reflect a change in the destination endpoint node 102_7.

Please replace paragraph **[0034]** with the following amended paragraph:

[0034] Through the use of the SIG field 305, two nodes from the same manufacturer can communicate information with one another that is not specifically provided for by the PNNI standard; while, at the same time, operate in compliance with the PNNI standard. That is, those nodes that can understand and use the contents of the SIG field 305 may do so while those that do not understand the SIG field 305 contents may simply ignore its information (as well as forward the PTSE having the SIG field to another node via a rebroadcast effort).

Please replace paragraph **[0043]** with the following amended paragraph:

[0043] Accordingly, in various embodiments, a node that serves as a destination endpoint node for an SPVC can trigger the release of a PTSP having a PTSE with embedded SIG information that includes: 1) the previous address of the endpoint node; and 2) the new address of the endpoint node. In one

embodiment, referring briefly back to Figure 1, the network management station 104 provides a change of address command to the destination endpoint node 102_7 ~~(e.g.,~~ via an SNMP (signaling network management protocol) command or other technique, for example~~)~~. When the destination endpoint node 102_7 recognizes that its address has changed, it issues at least one PTSP to broadcast the fact that an address change is at hand.